

WE SHALL CONTINUE  
THE UTMOST VIGILANCE  
AGAINST THE MOST  
DANGEROUS ENEMY  
GEORGE WASHINGTON

# BROOKE BLUEBONNET BROADCAST

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**BROOKE GENERAL HOSPITAL**

AN ARMY SERVICE FORCES INSTALLATION

FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS





**BROOKE  
BLUEBONNET  
BROADCAST**

AUTHORIZED BY  
**BRIGADIER GENERAL GEO. C. BEACH**  
COMMANDING  
**BROOKE GENERAL HOSPITAL**

Volume I, No. 9                      APN-8-21-M

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**RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES**

**CATHOLIC MASS**

Sunday, Chapel .....8:00 a.m.  
Each week day except Wednesday.....6:00 p.m.  
Confessions — Saturday (Also before  
each Mass) .....7:00 p.m

**PROTESTANT SERVICES**

Sunday School, Chapel ..... 9:00 a.m.  
Morning Worship, Chapel ..... 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday Vespers, Chapel ..... 7:30 p.m.  
Morning Worship, Recreation Room,  
Recreation Room, Old Hospital.....8:45 a.m.  
Evening Worship, Recreation Room,  
Old Hospital ..... 8:45 p.m.  
Wednesday Vespers, Chapel ..... 7:30 p.m.  
Bible Study Class,  
Chapel, Wednesday ..... 8:15 p.m.  
Recreation Room, Old Hospital,  
Wednesday ..... 5:30 p.m.

Religious services are also held every Sunday morning at the Medical Department Enlisted Technicians' School, in the Assembly Hall, 11:00 A.M.

**THAT SOUL OF YOURS**

The most important possession anyone has is the Soul that resides within the body. Just what the Soul is and where it is located neither scientists nor theologians know definitely. But, even the most unlearned man in this world realizes that there is something within him that is more than human—that is Divine.

With all of this before man though, many times he does not properly evaluate it. Have you ever tried to consider and weigh the value of your Soul? Perhaps no one can do this due to the limitations of the flesh, but there are some things that we can know about the Soul; first that the Soul is eternal. I mean by this, that the Soul of a man will live as long as God, Himself, and since God is eternal, the Soul will live forever.

The Bible speaks of eternal life and eternal death. The Greek word for eternal means the same as the English word eternal: forever and ever. In the second place, the Soul can suffer. It often does in this world and the Bible abounds with illustrations that predict some will suffer in the world to come.

Again, the Soul is from God; for God breathed and man became a living Soul. Therefore, we know that the Soul can not be annihilated. It can be saved or lost; that is, a Soul can be prepared for what God's book calls Heaven, or it can be prepared for perdition. The destiny of one's Soul is in his own hands.

Through a special provision of Almighty God, a plan has been made whereby the individual can save his Soul. Through a neglect of God's provision, the Soul will naturally be lost. Since man has his own Soul to save or lose, it is highly important that this decision—made with reference to the Soul—be made carefully, prayerfully, and thoughtfully.





*Brigadier General George C. Beach, Jr.*

COMMANDING  
BROOKE GENERAL HOSPITAL

(Story on Page 4)



# How Does a Hospital Operate?



N answer to many questions asked about Brooke General Hospital and the functions it performs, it was thought advisable that a "breakdown" of the organization under which come the various services would aid in orienting those not familiar with the performance of a general hospital to visualize, so to speak, the vast scope and the important work done here for the sake of humanity.

All administrative and professional services come under the jurisdiction of the Commanding General of the hospital.

\* \* \*

## BRIG. GEN. GEORGE C. BEACH

(Picture on Page 3)

Brigadier General Geo. C. Beach was born in Topeka, Kansas, 28 October 1888, the son of George Corwin and Laura (Rosseau) Beach. He received his Doctor of Medicine degree at Kansas City University Medical College in 1911, and served his internship at University Hospital from 1911 to 1912.

General Beach was assistant Surgeon at the Soldiers' Home, Hampton, Virginia from 1912 to 1914 and was commissioned a First Lieutenant in the Medical Corps, United States Army in 1914. He graduated from the Army Medical School in 1917 and was promoted through grades, receiving his promotion to Brigadier General in 1943.

General Beach was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal in World War I. He is a Fellow of the American College of Physicians, member of the American Medical Association, Diplomate American Board Internal Medicine; member of the Association of Military Surgeons, Phi Beta Pi, and honorary member of the Texas Internists Society.

\* \* \*

The administrative service of Brooke includes the Executive and assistant execu-

tive Officers; the Adjutant; the Chaplain; the Commanding Officer Detachment Medical Department; the Commanding Officer Detachment of Patients; the Field Director, American Red Cross; the Hospital Inspector; the Intelligence Officer; the Medical Supply Officer; the Mess Officer; the Post Police Officer; Public Relations Officer; Quartermaster; Registrar; Special Service Officer; Post Training Officer and Post Personnel Officer.

Under the Professional Services come the Medical Service; (See story on the Medical Service in this issue) the Surgical Service; the Dental Service; the Clinical Laboratory Service; the Roentgenological Service; the Out Patient Service and the Nursing Service.

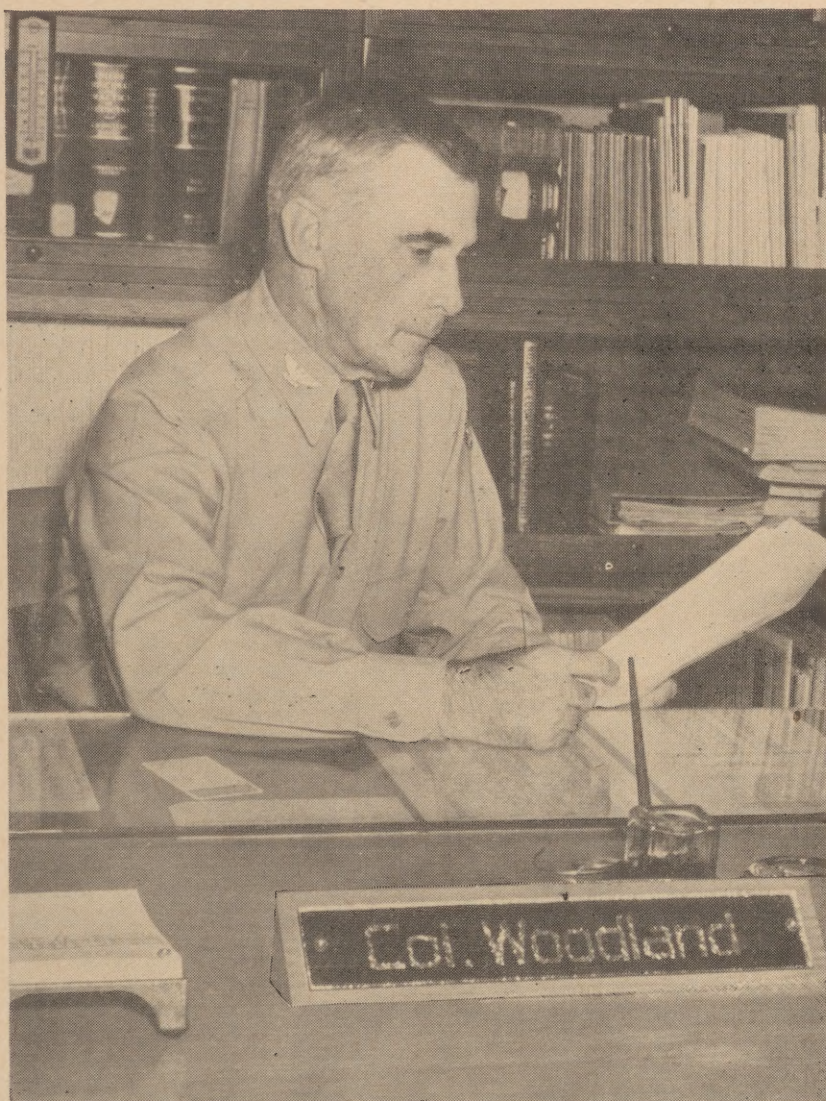
Attached to Brooke General Hospital are the Eighth Service Command's Central Dental Laboratory and the Eighth Service Command's Clinical Laboratory both located in the "old" hospital area.

The Commanding General of Brooke is also Commandant of the Medical Department Enlisted Technicians School, a subsidiary of the hospital at which are trained technicians for this and other general hospitals and for overseas assignments.

An important section added to the hospital the past year, is the Reconditioning Unit, the purpose of which is to return to duty, service personnel recovered from wounds, injuries or sickness in the best possible physical and mental condition through the use of planned physical conditioning, and the constructive use of leisure time in educational pursuits designed to effect a greater realization of personal importance and to produce a more informed soldier.

**INVEST NOW IN YOUR FUTURE . . .  
BUY MORE WAR SAVINGS BONDS!**





—Photo by U. S. Army Signal Corps.

*Colonel John C. Woodland*

**CHIEF OF MEDICAL SERVICE  
BROOKE GENERAL HOSPITAL**

(Story on Page 6)



# The MEDICAL SERVICE

## BROOKE GENERAL HOSPITAL



HE Medical Service of Brooke General Hospital has for its chief—Colonel John C. Woodland.

Colonel Woodland was born 6 August 1890 at Crisfield, Maryland, the son of A. W. and Sarah Ellen (Knapp) Woodland. He was educated at the University of Maryland, receiving his Doctor of Pharmacy degree in 1911 and Doctor of Medicine in 1915.

Colonel Woodland has been a member of the Medical Corps, United States Army for 27 years, having spent 22 years of his army service on the staff of general hospitals. Colonel Woodland began his army career as a First Lieutenant in 1917, serving in Division Medical Installation in France and Germany through 1918. He was stationed at the Base Hospital at Coblenz, Germany, for two years. Then upon his return to the United States he was stationed at Fitzsimons General Hospital in Denver, Colorado for three years doing work in tuberculosis. The following four years were spent at Gorgas Hospital in Panama, where much of his work was devoted to the treatment of tropical diseases. Upon his return to the United States, he was stationed at the Army and Navy General Hospital at Hot Springs, Arkansas for 5 years; 2 years of this time, Colonel Woodland served as Chief of General Medical Section, and 3 years as Chief of the Medical Service there.

For the past 6 years, Colonel Woodland has been a member of the Staff of Brooke General Hospital, serving the past three years as Chief of the Medical Service. Here he has done much pioneer work in the heretofore unknown disease called "Bullis Fever", on which a series of articles will appear in later issues of the Brooke Bluebonnet Broadcast.

Colonel Woodland is a Diplomate of the American Board of Internal Medicine, a Fellow of the American College of Physicians, member of the American Medical Association and Association of Military Surgeons. He is co-author of Acute Encephalitis (Journal American Medical Association) October, 1942, and Bullis Fever (Journal of American Medical Association) August, 1943.

The function of the Medical Service is to detect and accurately diagnose abnormal physical and mental conditions to which the human flesh falls heir, and to institute modern and scientific treatment for these

conditions, in order to restore the soldier to good health as speedily as possible. To aid the Medical Staff in this work, the hospital not only has a group of outstanding physicians gathered from the various sections of the nation, highly skilled in their particular specialty, but it is equipped with the very latest scientific and laboratory instruments and apparatus used in detecting the more obscure diseases.

Incorporated in the Medical Service are the following sections: Officers'; Women's, General Medical, Infectious and Contagious Diseases, Neuropsychiatric, Electrocardiographic and Basal Metabolic, Venereal Diseases, Dermatologic and Pediatric.

Under Colonel Woodland's supervision are 9 chiefs of the various medical Sections and their assistants. The Assistant Chief of Medical Service is Lieut. Colonel Fred R. Sloan. The Chief and Assistant Chief of the Medical Service, as well as the Chiefs of Sections are occupied with many administrative duties in addition to professional work. This responsibility includes the supervision of the proper maintenance and cleanliness of the wards the proper feeding and clothing of the patients, recreational and occupational activities and discipline of the patients entrusted to their care.

The Officers' Section under the Medical Service comprises Ward 3, in the main building of the "new" hospital, and Wards 20, 28, 29, 30 and 31 at the "old" hospital. This gives the Officers' Section a bed capacity of approximately 100. In addition to this, there are about 20 beds provided for the care and treatment of the mentally disturbed officers requiring closer supervision. Chief of this Section is Lieut. Colonel Aubrey S. McGee.

The Medical Section for Women is located in Ward 12, top floor of the main building, where some 22 beds are provided for their care. In this section are treated the officers of the Army Nurse Corps, Officers of the Women's Army Corps and enlisted personnel of the Women's Army Corps. The Chief of this section is Major E. V. Swift. Major Swift is also in charge of the Electrocardiographic and Basal Metabolic Section, and acts in a consultant capacity in heart diseases.

The General Medical Section includes two wards in the main hospital building, Wards 8 and 9, and two wards in Annex II, Wards



52-B and 53-B. Captain Norton W. Voorhies is Ward Officer of Ward 8, which ward is designated primarily for the proper care and treatment of the soldiers suffering from heart, blood vessel and kidney diseases. Major R. H. Page is Ward Officer, Ward 9, which ward is reserved primarily for the diagnosis, proper care and management of patients entering the hospital with diseases of the stomach and intestinal tract. The Chief of the General Medical Section is Lieut. Colonel H. M. Winans, who also serves as consultant for the Medical Service in professional medical problems.

The Infectious and Contagious Disease Section, whose chief is Captain Donald J. Wilson, occupy the semi-permanent ward building in the "old" hospital area. The variety of cases treated in this department include the various types of pneumonia, measles, coccidioidomycosis (desert fever), typhus fever, mumps, cerebrospinal meningitis, scarlet fever, Bullis Fever, etc.

Captain Geo. H. Wegmann is Chief of the Tuberculosis Section, Ward 35. In this section various types of diseases of the chest are dealt with, such as tuberculosis, chronic bronchitis, lung abscess, etc., and has a bed capacity of about 100.

Brooke General Hospital has recently been designated as an institution to care for closed ward or disturbed mental cases. Lieut. Colonel James B. Polka, is Chief of the Neuropsychiatric Section, which comprises a large part of the Medical Service. Here, too, are cared for those soldiers who have suffered some emotional or nervous disturbance of a minor nature. The Neuropsychiatric Section is splendidly equipped with the very latest mechanical equipment used in the diagnosis and treatment of nervous and mental cases. Approximately 400 beds are available for the hospitalization of nervous and mental cases.

The Venereal Disease Section located in the main building of the "old" hospital, has as its chief, Captain Elmer F. Ziegler. Here much pioneer work has been done in the treatment of cases of this type with the newer sulfonamide drugs and penicillin.

The Dermatologic Section (disease of the skin) is under the supervision and control of Major Drury S. Blair. Many cases entering this section of the Medical Service are suffering from skin conditions due to various types of fungus infections, along with many who are suffering from the effect of poisoning by various shrubs and trees. The X-ray Service, physical therapy Section, and Allergy Clinic, cooperate with the skin section in the intelligent investigation and treatment of these patients.

Major James B. Snow, is Chief of the

Pediatric Section, incorporating the children's clinic, both located at Annex III. Children eligible for treatment are dependents of active or retired military personnel. Only those children who are too seriously ill to be cared for in the Out Patient Service are admitted to the hospital. The same medical officer who takes care of the children's cases in the Out Patient Service attends the children in the Pediatric wards.

## DID YOU KNOW . . .

—that the official emblem of the Medical Department is called the Caduceus?

\* \* \*

—that the Caduceus was first adopted by the Medical Department in 1851, although it did not become a part of the uniform until 1902?



There are several legends as to why the Caduceus should be appropriate to the Medical Corps. The most common legend being that the Caduceus represents the following: The WINGS, the fleetness with which the Medical Department strives to exercise in going to the aid of the sick and wounded; the STAFF, the determination of the Medical Department to reach the sick even if it has to hobble along with the assistance of a cane; the SERPENTS, the wisdom employed in ministering to the ills of mankind.

The Caduceus of the Medical Department appeared first in 1851 in the form of a cloth sleeve insignia worn by hospital stewards. It disappeared in 1887, being replaced by the cross of the Geneva Convention, the familiar Red Cross, which was taken from the Swiss Flag with the colors reversed. Officers of the Medical Department long used the letters "M. S." in Old English characters within a laurel wreath. In 1872 they changed to "M. D." This lasted until 1890, at which time the Medical Officers started wearing a gold shield of the United States and this was continued for the next six years. Then came the Cross of Geneva Convention which lasted until 1902, when the Caduceus, emblem of physicians for more than 2,000 years, was adopted as the insignia of the Medical Department.



# "A War Expert Views the News"

By Colonel H. L. Landers, U. S. Army, Retired

Military Commentator on Texas Quality Network  
from Station WOAI, San Antonio, Texas  
Mondays and Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.

## SOUTHERN FRANCE

The hands with which the Nazis clutched the throat of France have been torn from the victim, and are being ground to bloody pulp under the heels of the Allied forces of invasion. Germany's grip on France has slipped rapidly in the two and a half months since beachheads were established in Normandy. Now that the Allies have made another powerful landing, the Nazis in France are becoming the subjugated people. The ease with which weak resistance was brushed aside when the American Seventh Army made landings between Toulon and Cannes, the sullen confession of prisoners of an awareness that the battle of France had already been lost in the north, the complete disorganization of communications behind the German divisions, and the patriotic fervor of the French forces of the interior—all these factors aided in bringing about the collapse of an empire of subjugation, that had strength only through cruelty, craftiness and false propaganda.

The Allies struck three days ago, with an assortment of triphibian blows that had become standard practice. Commandos hit the beach at 12:30 a. m., August 15, and marked the landing area for other commandos with signal lights. Then the commandos clambered up the cliffs and overwhelmed the crews of formidable coastal batteries, so that troop transports could approach the jumping-off points with minimum danger. The mission of these intrepid raiders, to capture all gun positions on the islands of Levant and Port Cros, was successfully executed. Seven waves of infantry swept ashore, each 2,000 strong, after bombers wrecked shore installations, warships bombarded land batteries, and paratroopers and glider-borne infantry landed at points distant from the beach, with the freedom and precision of drill. The opposition encountered in southern France consisted of elements of two German divisions. About 40 percent of the enemy battalions encountered in the assault were composed largely of Russian war prisoners, Czechs and Poles, under German officers. Needless to add that their combat efficiency and morale were not high.

Major General Patch, commanding this invasion force, sent columns north into all the mountain roads; his immediate objective

appeared to be the valley of the Durance River, 40 miles north from the Riviera. From the Durance Valley the American Seventh Army will probably pass into the Rhone Valley, and by that strategy acquire a dominant position over a section of the Mediterranean coast 110 miles long that includes Toulon, Marseille, the mouth of the Rhone and Montpellier. The enemy has not yet been able to use effectively the approximate five divisions that the German Marshal Blaskowitz is supposed to have retained, for the defense of all of France south of the Lore River.

General Sir Henry Maitland Wilson, Allied Mediterranean commander, said the purpose of the invasion was to drive the enemy from southern and central France, and then make a juncture with the Allied armies marching on Paris. The route of advance of the Seventh Army probably will be up the valley of the Rhone. That pathway leads into central France, where it connects with the valleys of the Loire and Seine, and those valleys form part of the Great Lowland Plain of Central Europe. That immense plain has always determined much of the conduct of war in Europe. Through it the Russians are driving westward to where lies Berlin; and when the two invasion forces in France have united, they will drive eastward through this lowland to the Rhine.

The landings in southern France were spectacular only in that most all spectacular incidents were lacking. General Wilson had been massing men and material on Corsica for months. All plans for the invasion had to be made on the assumption that there was some truth in Hitler's boasts of how strong the Mediterranean defenses were. As it turned out there was only light ground opposition to the landings, and no air opposition whatsoever. The conclusion must be accepted that the defenses were limited, inferior, and never intended to serve other than to deceive.

## A "SECRET"

An Associated Press item said that thousands of Frenchmen and Americans knew this invasion was coming and talked openly about it. It was characterized as "perhaps the worst secret of the war."



In Italy there was equal freedom in talking of an event known to all. My opinion was that Allied censors, complying with instructions, did a magnificent job of permitting the "secret" to be blared throughout the world. In my broadcast of Monday evening before the invasion I gave the Allied censorship that credit. I said, in part, that General Eisenhower's headquarters confused the German high command, by encouraging correspondents to speculate on a highly censorable situation that was in the making, and to give information on correlated matters. Correspondents were permitted to say that the threat from the Lore and the one from the Mediterranean may compel the German Blaskowitz to split his 10-division defense force, with the result that he would not have sufficient strength to defend against a major onslaught from either direction. I concluded my comments Monday night with the remark: "Without doubt the Germans fear an amphibious landing will be made soon in southeastern France." It developed later that commandos were landing while I was broadcasting.

## PATTON

For more than two weeks there had been an awareness of sensational blitzing of Normandy, Brittany and Maine, beyond anything yet known in warfare. In 1939 the German blitz carried from the frontier to Warsaw, 200 miles in eight days. One spring-coil alone of the American blitz, that began in the first week of August, carried 150 miles from Avranches to near Brest, in four days. Then came a sense of relief when our guess was confirmed that Patton, the world's master tank strategist and tactician, was back in action in command of an army. Patton's command, the American Third Army, made near-miraculous gains through its flashing thrusts that reached Brest, St. Malo, Lorient, St. Nazaire and Nantes. It made playthings of the German Von Kluge's reserve divisions. The supreme Nazi commander in France was at his wits end to decide how best to use his troops not yet committed to battle.

In the vicinity of Caen and the Orne River the Germans had assembled most of their armor. There the British and Canadians had been holding the hinge on which Bradley's swinging-gate movement, and later Patton's swirling armored dances, had pivoted. The Germans made a desperate attempt to disrupt the American corridor between Normandy and Brittany, by attacking toward Avranches. Days of bitter fighting ensued in the "coffin-corridor," and the German Seventh Army appeared to be on the point of annihilation.

Meanwhile Patton engaged in a new whirlwind offensive, toppling the fortress cities of Chartres, Orleans, Dreux and Chateau-

dun, and sending venturesome columns to the gates of Paris. Probably at this moment Patton's forces have reached the Seine River, far to the rear of the remnants of the German Seventh Army that succeeded in escaping through the gap between Falaise and Argentan. Remnants of Germany's western front forces will escape across the Seine and join the German army guarding the north coast-line of France.

## THE PRESIDENT

Standing on No. 1 gun platform of the year-old cruiser, veteran of 15 battles, that had carried him to Hawaii, the Aleutians, Alaska and then home, President Roosevelt addressed sailors, workers and guests who jammed the Puget Sound Navy Yard at Bremerton as his ship ended its long voyage Saturday afternoon, August 12. Loud-speakers distant about 500 feet from the gun platform, threw the sound back to the microphones, so that there was a half-second echo on many words when the delivery of the speech became impressively slow.

Early in his remarks the President gave hearty thanks to the press and radio for the security they afforded him when his travels carried him within the possible sphere of enemy activities.

The President said that every warship sunk at Pearl Harbor, except the battleship Arizona, had been raised, rebuilt and re-armed, making of them better fighting ships than they had been before. The main battery of the Arizona was removed and set up as part of the defenses of the island of Oahu, on which are Pearl Harbor and Honolulu.

The news released August 10 that the President, General MacArthur and Admiral Nimitz had conferred in Hawaii from July 27 to 29, was received in the United States with the greatest degree of satisfaction. The President told correspondents in Honolulu on July 29 that United States armed forces were going back to the Philippines, and that MacArthur would be part of the operation. It can be taken for granted that Admiral Nimitz and Admiral Halsey, commander of the 3rd Fleet, will have a part in that historic event.

In President Roosevelt's Bremerton talk he said that the three days of conferences in Honolulu developed complete accord as to the best method of defeating Japan. War will be carried into "the home islands of Japan and to its capital, Tokyo," the President declared. War in the air already has been carried to Japan several times.

Admiral Nimitz, recently back from an

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## A WAR EXPERT VIEWS THE NEWS

(Continued from Page 9)

inspection trip to Saipan and Guam, disclosed that he will move his headquarters to the Marianas. He said of the troops, both the navy afloat and the combat units ashore in the Marianas: "They are all in fine spirits and ready to go."

### RUSSIA

The offensive power of the German armies on the eastern front was shattered during the months of terrible warfare around Stalingrad in 1942 and 1943. At no time since have the Germans fought offensively inside of Russia, except for limited objectives.

Germans have known for a year that in time their forces would be driven from Russia back into the Reich. Angry conferences were held between Hitler and the Prussian professional leaders of the army as to the speed of the withdrawal from Russia. A strange balance of effort and evasion had to be struck between fighting and retreating.

In my broadcasts I called attention to the fact that although German troops were ordered by Hitler to "fight or die" at such strong bastions as Minsk, Vilno, Dvinsk, Grodno and Brest-Litovsk, in not a single instance did the generals in the field obey that order. They realized that obedience would bring but one ending—death without victory.

The Germans will be able to defend the 300-mile wide bottle-neck leading into the Reich between the Baltic Sea and the Carpathians with 100 divisions, unless the Russians, by aggressive action along the Carpathians, compel the enemy to extend his fighting over a total frontage of 700 miles.

I suggest that the Russian front be followed closely for its bearing on the fighting in France. On the bottle-neck front of 300 miles, Russian would be able to use only one-third of her strength. Germany could defend that front with 100 divisions, and send some 50 to 60 divisions from the eastern front into France. I view the German and Russian forces now fighting in the Baltic states as cancelling each other.

I do not expect to see a quick decision on either the eastern or western front. Germany has enough divisions to fight viciously when the lines of battle become shorter.

## THAT SOUL OF YOURS

(Continued from Page 2)

One of the means by which mankind can think along this line is the Gospel message given at the religious service. When one avails himself of the privilege of true worship, he is performing one of the greatest duties that can possibly come into his own life.

The religious services in this unit are available to any and all who wish to come. You are cordially invited.

—OLLIE G. MATTHEWS,  
Chaplain, Brooke's Chapel.

## PROGRAM GIVEN BY YOUNG PEOPLE OF THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

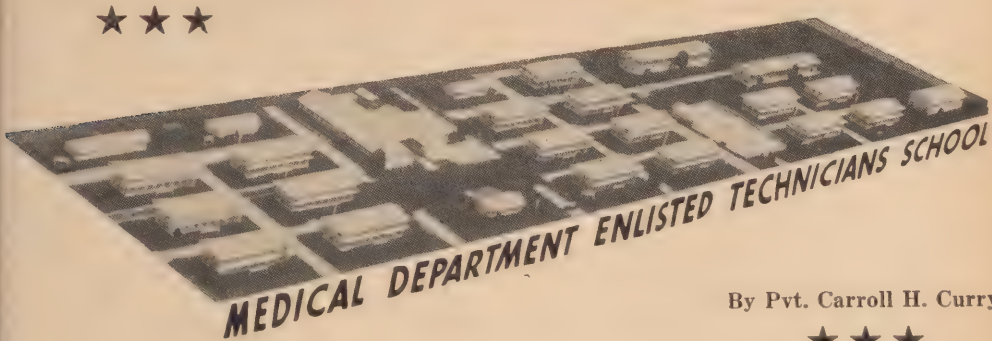
The young people of the First Baptist Church sponsored a program with the assistance of Mrs. Marietta Hall, who works with the Special Service Section at Brooke General Hospital, and the cooperation of Mrs. Amy Maret, a member of the Red Cross Staff, for the patients in Annex II, August 11. The program consisted of many interesting numbers: A duet by two young ladies, a skit of Little Red Riding Hood by two Servicemen, violin solos by one of our Servicemen's wives, Mrs. Milton Berg, accompanied by Corporal Milton Berg. The two soloists of the evening were Miss Mary Francis Bradley and Sergeant Wesley Whittaker. An added feature was the colored choir attached to the AAFNS, Army Air Forces, Hondo, Texas. Refreshments were enjoyed.

Mrs. Helen Martinez, Civilian Employee at Brooke, after receiving a recent letter from her son, fighting with the Marines on the Island of Guam, was inspired to write the following poem:

### DEAR MOM

I'm sending you these few lines,  
To let you know that I am fine.  
I'm on my way to fight the Japs  
Until we can lay them across our laps.  
If I don't write soon, please don't forget,  
You have a son that doesn't regret  
To give his life for Freedom and Peace.  
As I read this I can plainly see,  
My son so brave in front of me.  
"Don't cry Mom, I'll soon return,  
But not until this war is won."  
Yes, my son, we'll finally win,  
God Bless You,  
My courageous Marine!





By Pvt. Carroll H. Curry



**GENERALITIES**

This week, we would like to introduce to our readers the Surgical Section of our school. The Surgical Section is one of the two largest sections of MDETS and has graduated 3800 surgical technicians since April, 1941.

The mission of this section is to train soldiers to become technicians, skilled in assisting medical officers and nurses in operating rooms of general hospitals, and in every type of field unit and installation. Reports which come to the school from every place where former students are applying their knowledge, indicate that they

are accomplishing their tasks—well, and in the tradition of the Medical Department. A demonstration of the application of the Thomas Leg Splint is shown in the photo below.

Major Herman C. Sartorius is the director of the Surgical Section. Genial Major Sartorius, a fatherly looking gentleman with a small military mustache, is married, and is the father of two girls and two boys. He was educated at St. Louis University, and as a civilian, was in private practice in Garden City, Kansas.

Other officers of the Surgical Section

(Continued on Page 12)





**MDETS NEWS**

(Continued on Page 11)

staff are: Major Leon A. Dickerson, Captain Edwin R. Core, Captain Henry Feintuch, Captain John F. Delfosse, Lieutenant Thaddeus Herbert, and Lieutenant Angela McKay. The non-commissioned officers are: S/Sgt. Jesse Hudson, and Cpl. Donald Teare with the following Student Instructors: Hubert J. Long, Dale H. Holmes, John F. Flannery, Ralph H. Earnhart, Robert Addington, Carl Willard, David B. Leslie, Eugene C. Pembroke, Irving C. Lown, Jr., Francis L. Plante, Strattis D. Koliopulus, George F. Frenno, Clarence L. Waters, and Everett Henderson.

**ACTIVITIES**

The highlight of our graduation ceremony of this month was the address to the students by Col. John C. Woodland, MC. He brought us an inspiring message following the formal review in his honor.

The winning company in the review ceremony was the well-drilled Provisional Company "C," under the command of Major L. A. Dickerson. You really looked fine, fellows. Music for the review was provided by the Fort Sam Houston band.

\* \* \*

Anyone who saw Robert Macklin's portrayal of "The Mad Doctor" in "When the War is Over," will no doubt be just a little hesitant about visiting the family doctor after the war. "The Mad Doctor" was a skit propounding the average GI's impressions of an Ex-Medical Officer.

"When the War is Over" was presented Wednesday, August 9, in honor of the graduating class of that day. The show consisted of three skits concerning expected post-war difficulties in the lives of ex-soldiers, and various musical specialties. Once again, the show was highlighted by Frank Wheeler's famous marimba trio. "Frankie" played a galaxy of numbers, ranging from a low-down version of "Tiger Rag" to his own beautiful arrangement of "Trees."

\* \* \*

Congratulations to Barracks 1 for having awarded the honor of the best barracks of the week in Company "B".

**PERSONALITIES**

A sad day will soon dawn for the personnel of the school. Miss Frances "Tallahassee" Morrison, who is the reason for many "business" trips to headquarters, is leaving. Ah, well—such is life.

\* \* \*

An interesting personality in our publications section is Pvt. Lew Hirshman, a former commercial artist from Philadel-

phia. Lew's specialty is cartooning and caricature work. He once did a three dimensional caricature of the Duke of Windsor, using as his medium, a piece of toast and a scrambled egg. Pvt. Hirshman's work has appeared in many leading magazines, including Life, Harper's Bazaar and Look. At present, he is spending his free time doing caricatures of the school personnel.

Here is our own adjutant, Captain William R. Ball, MAC, on the job as always. But really, fellows, he isn't as tough as he looks.

\* \* \*

Joe Teahan, of the Dental Section, just can't keep out of trouble in the army. He gave up hoss-back riding after a couple of set backs, but now we hear that he tried to ride the "dumb-waiter" at the Central Dental Laboratory. Joe, did you ever try one of these S. A. busses?

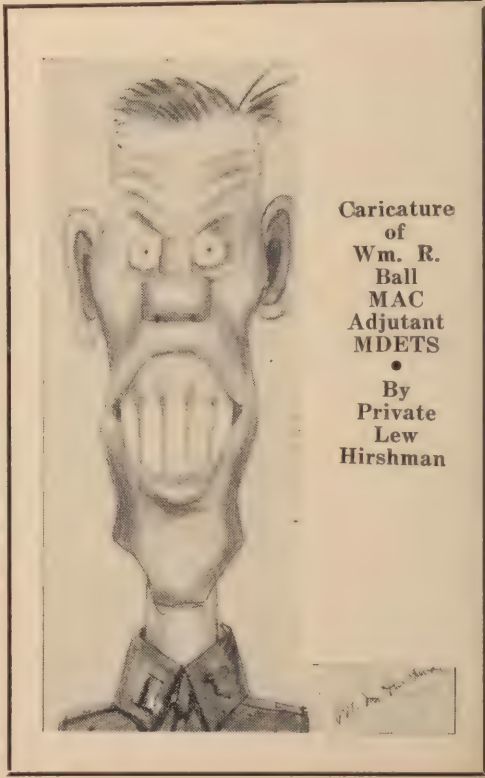
\* \* \*

S/Sgt. Crimmer says there is a very definite reason for his long face lately. Hmmm?

**APOLOGY DEPARTMENT**

We wish at this point to express our more or less sincere apologies to the officers of the school for the many jokes and

(Continued on Page 14)



Caricature  
of  
Wm. R.  
Ball  
MAC  
Adjutant  
MDETS  
•  
By  
Private  
Lew  
Hirshman



# Rattlesnakes and Their Enemies In The Southwest

By COL. M. L. CRIMMINS,  
U. S. Army, Retired

Reprinted from Bulletin of the Antivenin Institute of America, Vol V, No. 2, September 1931



**R**ATTLESNAKES have many enemies in the southwest among the wild animals in that part of the country, and also among domestic animals.

One of the best informed authorities in our southwest who had traveled one hundred and twenty-five thousand miles, carrying the mail, staging and overland freighting, from 1866 to 1880, was August Santleben. I quote from his book, *A Texas Pioneer*, as follows: "Rattlesnakes were found in great numbers in west Texas, and they were enemies that had to be guarded against at all times. Wild turkeys always show a great antipathy to them and never fail to make a deadly and persistent attack until the reptile is destroyed. An opportunity to witness such conflicts is seldom offered; therefore, I will notice one incident of the kind that came under my observation." The story continues:

"I was traveling the road near Uvalde when I saw a large flock of wild turkeys in an open glade near the highway. I stopped when I saw the gobblers had congregated in a circle, where they seemed to be fighting, but I soon perceived they were killing a large rattlesnake. One after the other would spring into the air in rapid succession and come down on the reptile, which they struck a hard blow with one wing, that might have been heard quite a distance. Apparently all the gobblers took part in the fracas, and they appeared to be greatly excited, but the hens fed quietly in the vicinity and seemed to be indifferent to what was going on.

"I watched them about ten minutes before they observed my presence and became alarmed. After they disappeared in the brush I approached the place and found the snake coiled up and almost dead. Evidently the gobblers had been engaged in killing him for some time before I appeared on this scene, and if they had not been disturbed the victim would have provided a feast for the whole flock because it is their custom to eat the snakes, killed in that way.

"Deer are equally prejudiced against rattlesnakes and invariably attack them in favorable localities. . . The deer springs from a safe distance into the air with his four feet brought together, and he comes down on the snake with his sharp pointed hoofs, which cut like a knife. The movements are rapid and often repeated until

the rattler is mangled into a shapeless mass.

"The javelina or Mexican wild hog found in many parts of Texas and some parts of New Mexico, will also kill and eat them, and so does a chaparral cock."

\* \* \*

I have personally seen chickens kill and eat rattlesnakes. In the summer of 1928 I was living on the Burr Road on the north eastern outskirts of San Antonio, Texas. One evening I caught a female rattlesnake as it was sleeping on a brush pile. I caught the snake by the tail as I had no other means of getting it, and carried it back to the house and put it in a box. I judged from her appearance that she had recently given birth to some young snakes as it was about the middle of August, when rattlesnakes would have their young. I was therefore on the alert for young snakes and in a few days four were killed. Each had one button only. Two were killed and eaten by some of my chickens, which weighed not more than three pounds. Going out in the chicken yard one morning I saw a Cochon China pullet with a young rattlesnake in her beak pursued by the rest of the chickens and muscovy ducks. In order that other witnesses might see this unusual performance I called to a neighbor and his wife and cook and to my wife and cook, so that we would have six witnesses. By the time they arrived the pullet had evidently swallowed the young rattlesnake, but a Plymouth Rock cockerel had another, and he was being pursued like the pullet. My witnesses having arrived, I ran the chicken down until he dropped the snake. It was a young Texas diamond-back rattler (*Crotalus atrox*) about twelve inches long, and it was still alive. I cut it in three pieces with an ax and the chickens and muscovy ducks fought over it greedily until every piece was swallowed.

The Chief of the Apicultural Laboratory at San Antonio, H. P. Parks, tells me that about nine years ago he observed a domestic cat at his laboratory bring young rattlesnakes to her kittens, and they would eat them. He said that since then every generation of that cat family does likewise. This has been observed by Mr. Parks, his wife, son and daughter, and employees at his laboratory.

(Continued on Page 14)



# Physical Therapy Briefs

BY 1ST. LT. FERN GREEN

## PLEASE NOTE:

According to directive from the War Department, the term "aide" no longer applies to members of the Physical Therapy Corps, they will now be known as Physical Therapists.

\* \* \*

## BROOKE—NERVE CENTER

Brooke General Hospital is a Peripheral Nerve Injury Center and most patients with peripheral nerve injuries are treated in the Physical Therapy Clinic.

A recent survey made at Brooke for the History of Physical Therapy in World War II, shows a total of 120 such injuries treated here in the past 10 months. Of these, 66 have had complete return of voluntary functions and 60 have returned to duty.

One case in particular, is that of Sgt. George H. Hilderbrand who has just completed one full year of daily treatment in P. T. He has made very good progress, has partial return of function, and is steadily improving.

Sgt. Hilderbrand, while in the Cavalry overseas, was wounded in his right arm during the Tunisian Campaign. For this, he won the Purple Heart Award. After the war, he plans to go into the cattle business here in Texas.

\* \* \*

## WELCOME TO BROOKE . . .

Lts. Stella E. Schlereth of Cincinnati, Ohio; and Mary E. Almquist of Columbia, Missouri, who only recently arrived here.

Lt. Almquist is here for basic training, after which she will go to her station at Army-Navy General Hospital, Hot Springs, Arkansas.

Lt. Schlereth, who is permanently assigned to B.G.H., is a graduate of the Physical Therapy Department of Northwestern Medical School in Chicago. She has been a Civilian Physical Therapist for the past three years with the visiting Nurse's Association and Children's Hospital of Cincinnati.

\* \* \*

## OVER THERE, OVER THERE!!

Lt. Eleanor Hayes has arrived safely overseas. She likes it, and writes that all of us should hurry on over.

## RATTLESNAKES . . .

(Continued from Page 13)

A couple of years ago a traveling animal exhibit was put in a building at Roswell, New Mexico. The center box had in it a badger. The box adjoining it contained some rabbits, and on the other side were rattlesnakes. The badger gnawed his way out of his box into the box of the rattlesnakes and killed and ate them. This he did in preference to the rabbits whose box was equally close and made of the same material, and they could have been as easily killed.

El Paso, Texas.

## MDETS NEWS APOLOGIES

(Continued from Page 12)

wisecracks which have been made about them in our shows. (This apology made to keep the cast off extra duty.)

Apologies to Captain Kelley for the build-up of his nickname. How did we know that the name "Casanova" would stick?

In our line-up of the Medical Section in the last issue of the Bluebonnet, we made a grave error. We neglected to mention a most important member of the staff—2nd Lt. Laura Little, ANC. Our most sincere apologies, "Lulubelle." Since the last issue, we have 1st Lt. Clarissa Zinsmeyer back with the Medical Section.

## FROM WARD 40—*alias* "SNAKE HILL"

—By a member of the "S.U."

The patients here in Annex I would like to know if the recent issue of the which appeared in the July 4th issue of the B.B.B. which was dedicated to Ward 40 and contained the article on rattlesnakes, was just a coincidence. One Gilbert Fedema was highly insulted because his picture did not appear on the same page with one of the snakes. Gilbert contends that he is the "Mayor of Snake Hill," and would appreciate our recognition of the fact . . . so there, too! ED'S NOTE: No reflection was intended on the inhabitants of Ward 40 in the above mentioned issue, however, since you mention it . . .

\* \* \*

The article on Bill Tucker formerly of Ward 4, and more recently of "Snake Hill" which appeared in the July 4th issue of the B.B.B., is hereby amended. It has been said . . . "those who are bashful and shy should be carefully watched . . ." Tucker, who used to have the most engaging smile and blush has just been christened "Wild Bill," by the fellows in his ward, due to the fact that he now ends all conversations with his lady friends, in a long low wolfish whistle. What gives, "W.B."?





## NEWS from the Army Nurse Corps



Colonel Florence E. Blanchfield, ANC

### CHIEF OF THE ARMY NURSE CORPS, WASHINGTON, D. C. VISITOR AT BROOKE

Colonel Florence E. Blanchfield, Chief of the Army Nurse Corps, with headquarters in the Surgeon General's Department in Washington, D. C., was a recent visitor to this hospital. This was Colonel Blanchfield's first trip to the Eighth Service Command area for the purpose of inspecting the nursing services.

Colonel Blanchfield has already visited several general and regional hospitals in the eastern part of Texas and remarked particularly on Camp Fannin, which she claims "is a most interesting place."

Anxious to provide adequate nursing care for casualties, arriving daily from overseas, Colonel Blanchfield realized that a personal inspection would give her a better picture of the situation than what could be gained through written reports.

"Particularly I am impressed with the high morale on the part of overseas patients," remarked Colonel Blanchfield, "and I am greatly pleased with the care the nurses in our hospitals are giving them."

"Brooke General Hospital is really fortunate in being designated as one of the

training centers for Cadet Nurses for these young women should be able to contribute greatly to the aid of the regular nursing staff as they are learning to care for the sick and wounded. They will be on duty 48 hours each week 46 hours of which they will do ward work under the supervision of regular members of the A.N.C., learning to correctly care for all types of cases.

"This hospital differs in a great respect from other hospitals," Colonel Blanchfield went on to remark, "in that, in its expansion it has been able to take over buildings in the near vicinity which were easily adaptable to hospital use. Most of the other hospitals are more closely connected or under one roof. Probably Brooke is a bit more difficult to administrate because the buildings are more widely separated," she continued, "but nevertheless, an excellent job is being done here."

Colonel Blanchfield also mentioned the high morale existing in the Army Nurse Corps and remarked that Army Nurses appear to be very happy in their assignments, whether overseas or on the home front.

"Brooke General Hospital is a Basic Training Center for all nurses in the Eighth Service Command. Soldier corpsmen, too, take their training at Brooke after which they benefit other general hospitals as well as fill a need on the front lines overseas," she concluded.

### CADET NURSES ENTHUSIASTIC IN THEIR NEW WORK AT BROOKE

(Pictures on Page 16)

There are now ten Cadet Nurses taking special training at Brooke General Hospital and all are accepting their work most enthusiastically.

Cadet Nurses will round out their training here and when completed will be eligible for Army Service or for Nursing in Civilian life.

It is expected that approximately every two weeks will see a new contingent of Cadet Nurses arriving at Brooke and a warm welcome awaiting them all.



Right—The first six Cadet Nurses reporting for training at Brooke after which they will be eligible for nursing work either in the Service or in Civilian life, include: Mamie Ehrhardt of Washington, La.; Katherine Hixon of Hattiesburg, Miss.; Elizabeth Wisdom of Okeene, Okla.; Bonnie Fay of Kaufman, Tex.; Ruth Christ of Crowley, La.; and Mary Frances Williams of Perry, Fla.



The Cadet Nurses in their Classroom, Barracks 6, New Nurses Quarters, receiving instruction from First Lieutenant Mary E. Hendrixson, ANC, in charge of the Cadet Nurse training at Brooke.



The Library located in Barracks 6, New Nurses Quarters, equipped especially for use of the Cadet Nurses, provides ample material for use during training.







# BROOKE SPORTS



Edited by Pvt. Randall C. Guthrie

## Brooke Cagers Home from Mexico City



**BROOKE GENERAL HOSPITAL'S BASKETBALL TEAM:** Standing left to right: Captain Allcorn, coach, Guthrie, Kraus, Broadway, Guerinsky, Dietz and McGinnis. Seated left to right: Alford, Olsen, Haese, Williard, Hartmann and Fair.

The Brooke General Hospital basketball team returned to San Antonio last week from Mexico City, a very tired but happy lot. They returned to Brooke sporting only one victory in the five game series, played with three of the very best basketball teams in Mexico. One of these teams, the Transmisiones, Mexican Signal Corps outfit, were the champions of Mexico.

The Brooke team made the trip at the invitation of the Mexican government, and were the guests of the Mexican Army at the Colegio Militar, the Mexican "West Point." The team spent fourteen days in Mexico during which time they played one Army team, one Navy and one civilian outfit. They lost the first four games in the Arena Mexico at Mexico City but won the last game of the series at Puebla against the champion Transmisiones team.

Captain George L. Allcorn, coach of the Brooke General team took a squad of ten men on the trip, many of whom played last year with the great Medical Service School team which set such a terrific pace in San Antonio basketball last season. From this team Capt. Allcorn had such stars as Charlie Broadway, towering 6'4" center, and former Southern Illinois College star; Barton Olson, sharp shooting forward from Springfield College, Mass., and Clifford Fair from Bennington, Vt. Other returning veterans of last year's team were Carl Willard of Missouri, Randall Guthrie of Ohio University and Loman Suel, Minneapolis, Minn.

The new men rounding out the Mexico squad were: Fred "Whitey" Hartman, former University of Ky. star, whom San

(Continued on Page 18)



**BROOKE SPORTS**

(Continued from Page 17)

Antonio fans will remember as a standout player with the 95th Division team here two years ago; Lloyd Dietz, former hurler for the Philadelphia Phillies, from Beaumont, Texas; Sylvian Guerinsky of San Antonio and Johnny Alford, of Baylor University and Beaumont, Tex.

The squad arrived in Mexico City on the 28th of July, and were greeted by representatives of the Mexican Government, the Mexican Army Signal Corps and the Mexico City Press Association.

The unusual altitude of "the city" makes it difficult for those not accustomed to it to get their breath and this accounts for the contributing factor in the poor showing the boys made in their first three games. However, in the last two contests they rounded into shape and made a very commendable showing.

The first game was played at the Mexican Arena against a rough Marina-Scop team of the Mexican Navy. The Brooke General team lead throughout the first three quarters and looked as if they were going to take the contest, but tired very badly in the fourth stanza and finally came out on the losing end of a 35-33 count. The BGH team was handicapped in this contest by the absence of their coach, Capt. Allcorn who was unable to attend the game. "Whitey" Hartman was easily the outstanding cager in this game as he scored 15 points and played a great defensive game.

The next game saw the BGH team tangle with a very good "Cachorros" civilian outfit also in the Arena Mexico. The "Medics" lost this one by the score of 42 to 35. Again they played a very good first half and led the civilians 20-45 at the intermission, but couldn't hold the pace and went down fast in the last half.

The third game of the Series started the "main event" of the Medics' long trip to Mexico. It was the beginning of the three game series with the champions of Mexico, Las Transmisiones. Two of these games were played in the Arena Mexico and the last in Puebla, 80 miles south of Mexico City.

In the first game the "Medics" were off form in every department and lost 55-36. Sylvian Guerinsky played a terrific backboard game but didn't have much help from his mates. Whitey Hartman again tossed in 10 points to lead the "Medics" in the scoring department. In the fourth game of the series the U. S. cagers finally hit their stride. They fought and battled the Transmisiones throughout the contest to a standstill. The game was tied up almost throughout. The Mexican Signal Corps lead at the half by two points, and at

the end of the third quarter by one. However, they managed to pull out in front in the closing minutes by virtue of two quick baskets and win 48-43.

The final game of the series was played in Puebla, beautiful Mexican city just 80 miles south of Mexico City, which the boys liked very much mainly because it was several thousand feet lower and they had no trouble in breathing. With this as a stimulant the boys came out with revenge in their eye and copped the finale by a close score of 34-32. Charlie Broadway finally snapped out of his slump and pushed 18 points through the meshes to lead both teams in the scoring. Lloyd Dietz, Clifford Fair and Sylvian Guerinsky played stellar games at the new guard positions. Dietz was especially outstanding on the defense.

Returning to Mexico City the next day the team finally went out to see the town. They had played five games in a row and were ready for a rest. The Mexican Army loaned two station wagons with drivers and during the next three days the team saw almost every historical, educational and enjoyable sight in and around Mexico City.

They visited the famous Pyramids, the Bull Fights, the Floating Gardens (Mexico's Venice) and saw at close range the two famous volcanic mountains Popocatepetal, and Paracutin, plus many other Mexican beauty spots.

All in all it was a wonderful trip which was enjoyed by every one of the team. Although they won only one game, they left Mexico with the assurance of the Mexican officials that they were more than satisfied with the showing the Brooke General Cagers had made. The boys themselves will vouch for the genuine friendliness and hospitality of our southern neighbors, and all hope to return for another visit some day soon.

**MDETS SPORTIVITIES**

By Pvt. Carrol H. Curry

As a part of the school graduation exercises, Wednesday, 9 August, Col. Warren C. Fargo presented the MDETS softball team with engraved silver softballs, which the team won in the Fort Sam Houston Softball League. The team wishes to thank the Post Special Service Officer for the very appropriate trophies.

Looking over the score book, we see that the "Medics" were in fine form on 23 July, taking the 3547 Ordnance Maintenance Company for another victory, score—26 to 7. Norris Carroll, short stop, was the batting ace with three for four.

The night of 3 August was a bad night for the team, when they allowed the PRU team to beat them 8 to 6. The Medics made six errors, while PRU made only one. Hulin



## MORE BROOKE SHORTS

Carlton was the leading batter, with a triple and a double out of four trips to the plate.

August 8, saw what might be the last of the MDETS games for the season. S/Sgt. Curtis Voelkel, who has pitched nearly all games this year, pitched a no hit game against the 304 Signal Corps team. This was his first no-hitter of this season, score 1 to 0. Not only did Voelkel pitch a no hit game—he got two doubles, one scoring the winning run.

## MDETS PLACE SECOND IN COMMAND MEET

On the 27, 28, and 29th of July, Fort Sam Houston was host to the big 8th Service Command Swimming Meet held at Salado Pool, in which 18 Camps were represented from 5 states.

Fort Sam was conspicuous by the lack of entries in the Men's Division. Had it not been for two men from the Medical Department Enlisted Technicians School, Brooke General Hospital, there would not have been a single entry from Fort Sam Houston. Brooke's entries were Major Albert E. Rath, MC and Pfc. Walter J. Worrell, Student Instructor.

The female contingent supplied by the local WACs made a fine showing by winning the Women's Division by a good score over Camp Swift, who placed second.

Major Rath swam the 50-yd. free stroke and placed second in the finale by swimming a brilliant race to nose out second place. White of Arkansas won in the exceptionally apt time of 24:5. Maj. Rath was a former aquatic star at Wooster College, Ohio, and held the 50-yd. free style record there.

Pvt. Worrell, formerly of Redwood City, California and coach of Water Polo and Swimming at the high school there, took a second in the 200-yd. free style against a tough field.

The really outstanding feature of the meet was the 68 points amassed by Camp Berkeley. The vast majority of these points were made by two men who turned in stellar performances. They were Lt. Mulford and Pvt. Taft, who each scored three individual firsts and swam on three swimming relays.

The meet was a tremendous success and it is the opinion of those here at Brooke that more swim meets should be held in the future.

## BUDDIES MEET AT BROOKE AFTER TWO YEARS

Private Ramie Trahan of Mernetau, Louisiana and Staff Sergeant Louis Dobrutzky

of Hartford, Connecticut were reunited at Brooke General Hospital on July 13th. Pvt. Trahan relates the story as follows:

"I looked up from my bed in Ward 5 one day when a Staff Sergeant walked in and stared at me, I stared right back at him—then all of sudden, it dawned on both of us that we knew each other. It had been a long time since we'd been together, and we were mighty glad to meet again.

"When I was first inducted into the army I was sent to Camp Shelby, Mississippi. That's where I met Sgt. Dobrutzky, who was then a corporal. We became very good friends. Louis was attached to Company C, 169th Infantry, 43rd. Division and after 13 weeks of Basic Training, he went back to his own Company, "G" and I was transferred to an Anti-Tank Company. For the following six months of our stay in Mississippi, we saw a lot of each other. From there we went to Fort Ord, California for a while, where we still kept in touch with each other and finally, the time came to go overseas. For the first 8 months we were again together; after that, we went into action on the front and saw each other only once.

"Ever since then, we were both wondering what had happened to the other until we met here at Brooke. Sgt. Dobrutzky is attached to the Medical Detachment and I'm now a patient in Ward 40. I've seen Louis several times since that first meeting, and it's a great feeling to talk over old times together."

\* \* \*

"What do you know!" Private Trahan further remarks, "On July 23rd what I do but run into another buddy of mine, this time, at Annex II. He is Sgt. Barney Clawson of Kenton, Ohio, and was in Company E, 148th Infantry, 37th. Division.

"We first met in the same hospital at New Hebrides—that was in August of 1943, then on July 23rd, almost a year later, he walked up to me and grabbed my hand and asked me how I was doing. At first I didn't recognize him, then I remembered and we had a long talk about where we'd been and what we had done since we last saw each other. Barney was wounded in his left leg during the Munda Air Field Battle, by a piece of shrapnel from a hand grenade.

"It is a great pleasure for me to say that I have made a lot of friends since I have been here in this hospital, but the biggest thrill of all is meeting my buddies from overseas."

## FROM "SNAKE" HILL

Calvin Henderson of Ward 40, plans on opening his OWN Barber Shop after "his duration and six." He did a beautiful job the other day on Sam McBride!



# RED CROSS ACTIVITIES AT B.G.H.

## GRAY LADY OF THE MONTH

—By Mrs. J. B. Mann,  
Gray Lady Corps

Now mornings at nine o'clock her car stops at the entrance to the Red Cross House. Before the M.P. says, "Sorry you can not stop here," she hastily unloads a large supply of NEW magazines with the assistance of Myliss or a thoughtful patient passing by. Then to the already crowded parking lot where she leaves her car for the day—and it is a full day this charming and capable Gray Lady spends at Brooke General Hospital. Some mornings she serves coffee (and her's is always just right) and doughnuts to the many happy members of the Coffee Club. Other mornings she hastens to the Wards where she is known and loved by so many patients. Her list of errands for these men is amazing in its length and variety. Her sweet gentle voice and words of encouragement mean so much to all that are fortunate enough to know her.

Afternoons? Well, certainly she is still with us. Where? Usually being most helpful in the midst of a group of patients doing Handcraft on the Wards or in the O. T. Shop. Back at the Red Cross House around 4:30 about ready to call it a day when she sees some thoughtful person leaving flowers and being arranged in the kitchen. "Why, if you don't mind I will help you as I know one or two very sick men on one of these Wards that these flowers will mean so much to." So off she goes to the hospital again.

Now for your sixty-four dollar question. Who is she? Yes, you've guessed it. Mrs. Robertson, of course, who gave so happily 79½ hours of her time last month.

## ANNEX II BINGO

Reported by Mary Reed Simpson  
Red Cross Staff Recreation Worker

Mrs. Smavelly and Mrs. Hilton serve as gracious hostesses at a Bingo party every Wednesday afternoon in the Annex II Day Room.

Cooling refreshments consisting of iced punch and cookies are served in addition to cigarettes and candy. Patients and their guests participate in the games with much gusto watching their cards eagerly for the prizes, which are both delightful and useful. They are thoughtfully selected and donated by the Camp and Hospital Council of New

Braunfels and our Hospital Gray Ladies.

Come join our fun on Wednesday afternoons at Annex II.

\* \* \*

Pvt. Frank Wheeler's xylophone trio has been most generous in providing entertainment for patients at the Annexes and at both the "old" and "new" hospitals. We are looking forward to a return visit soon.

\* \* \*

Have you had the pleasure of hearing Herb Koch at the piano? He and Mrs. Bearden delighted Ward 5 with popular songs. Herb was with a hospital unit for two years in England, Africa, and Italy. It is of interest to know that it was the first unit operating in tents.

\* \* \*

If you want to hear a funny story, ask Nicky about the dummy patient, George, from Ward 40, who visited Ward 4. You'll find Nicky every morning drinking coffee at the Red Cross House.

\* \* \*

Mrs. Fain and her group of girls from the Depot served ice cream and cake last Wednesday to the patients on Wards 4 and 5. The snowy white cake had a big "hello" written across it, and served as the first welcome from the B.G.H. Red Cross to some of the patients who had just arrived that afternoon.

## WARD 5 NEWS

We welcomed Pancho back even if it was just for a day's stay to have his cast changed.

\* \* \*

How does Camille Judice, Bed 47, have so much luck at Bingo?

\* \* \*

Jimmy Kaczor has designed some colorful bracelets, not to mention the tedious airplane model now under construction.

\* \* \*

Be careful of Bed 26, Herman Adams; he is a checker shark.

## OUTDOOR PARTIES

Reported by Mrs. Sue Stanley,  
Red Cross Hospital Recreation Worker

One of the most successful parties of the month was held on the lawn outside of the Red Cross building Thursday, July 27th. Golf putting, croquet and a watermelon feast highlighted the evening. Incidentally, PVT. GILBERT FEDDEMA celebrated an anniversary that evening. He has been a patient at Brooke General Hospital for



## RED CROSS NEWS

exactly one year and in honor of the occasion his fellow patients elected him mayor of Ward 40.

\* \* \*

Outside entertainment is becoming more popular. Patients at the Old Hospital enjoyed a concert by the Fort Sam Houston band Wednesday, July 26th. Cokes and cookies were served on the lawn by members of the Beta Sigma Phi Sorority. Bed patients in Wards 34 and 35 were not forgotten either and refreshments were served to them also. A similar concert was given at the New Hospital by the San Marcos AAF Navigation School, Sat., July 29th.

\* \* \*

A major outing in which Red Cross Recreation Workers participated was the picnic at the Tobin Ranch held Saturday, July 29th for Annex IV men. In addition to the excellent program planned by Lt. Fabian, Red Cross provided spot entertainment throughout the evening. Lt. Thomas Bearden displayed his talents as a magician.

Evening refreshments were served through the courtesy of Bexar Co. Canteen Mobile Unit.

\* \* \*

Being of a democratic nature, the Recreation staff decided to give the patients a voice in the running of the Red Cross building and in naming the type of programs desired. A suggestion box has been placed on the bulletin board in the lobby. Thus far the only requests have been for a CDD, 30 day furlough, "girls and more girls."

Granted that these are all logical requests, still, there isn't much that the Red Cross can do about them. We would appreciate concrete criticisms or suggestions. Do you like coffee in the mornings? . . . Would you rather have something cold? Are you satisfied with the entertainments . . . is there something you would like better? Do you feel at home in the Red Cross building . . . is there something we can do to make your stay more pleasant and comfortable? Just jot it down and drop it into the suggestion box.

## OUR NITE CLUB

By Mrs. Amy Maret  
Recreation Worker

The Red Cross Nite Club was not just a myth this month. In addition to the dozens of watermelon lawn parties, picnics and outdoor festivals, the men arrived on the evening of August 10th, to find the Red Cross Auditorium transformed into a rather

sophisticated version of one of the local nite clubs.

Small tables were placed about the floor and the orchestra was playing smooth sophisticated music as the men were invited to their tables. There was at least one lovely lady for every two men, which added to the interest in competing for favors, and each table was marked "Reserved for Red Cross Guest Only," by various colored table markers.

"The Randolph Field Cadet Gadgets" under the direction of our own popular Sergeant, Dick Foote, supplied the music. Several specialty acts were spotted, including an excellent floor show brought by the Cadets. Their music kept everyone in a gay, breezy mood.

Of course, no nite club is complete without tinkling ice and tid-bits to munch throughout the evening, so we were gifted with very attractive hostesses, who served the refreshments during the evening. The strains of "Home Sweet Home" came much too quickly and our guests agreed, on leaving, that the Red Cross Nite Club had made its debut and was here to stay!

\* \* \*

## NEW OVERSEAS PATIENTS, PLEASE NOTE:

May we of the Red Cross Staff add a brief note of welcome to the many overseas men who are arriving each week? We hope when the time comes for you to leave Brooke General, that you will have the same feeling of loyalty and pride for B.G.H., that we, who know it, have. If you have any requests or suggestions to make of our program, we do want to hear from you, so please come in and have a chat with us real soon! Our recreation rooms are always fun—see for yourself!

\* \* \*

## TO FITZSIMONS G. H.

Last week saw the departure of Miss Margaret Walter for Fitzsimons General Hospital in Denver, Colorado, where she will be Assistant Field Director. Miss Walter's sense of humor and outstanding personality made her a favorite of the patients, Medical Staff, and Red Cross Staff. Everyone wishes her oodles of success in her new venture.

\* \* \*

## ADDITIONS. . .

We now have a new Office Manager, Miss Geneva Vass and a Case Work Supervisor, Clara Slatton. They are very welcome to our staff.

\* \* \*

## When is YOUR birthday?

The Annex II monthly Birthday Party has become a tradition. On the third Monday of each month, the young ladies of the

(Continued on Page 24)



# Reconditioning at Brooke Produces A More Informed Soldier

Why is there a Reconditioning Unit at Brooke? What is the purpose of Reconditioning? These are only two of many questions asked in reference to one of the most important sections in this hospital.

In the first place, when a soldier returns from overseas with wounds or illness, the period of convalescence is sometimes long. Of course some wounds and illnesses are of short duration and soldiers in this class are not retained in the hospital for



in the Reconditioning Program, these soldiers will be better fitted to assume their places in civilian life again.

The photos shown reflect the interest displayed by soldiers going through the reconditioning phase at Brooke. In the top picture they are being brought up to date on the war situation; the lower picture shows part of the excellently equipped library at the Reconditioning Unit where the latest books for study as well as the best in magazine reading are available.

Excellent results of Reconditioning at Brooke have been noted. First, men have been returned physically fit for full duty; second, readmissions to the hospital have been reduced; third, the period of convalescence has been shortened in many cases; fourth, the necessity

for sick leave has been largely eliminated and fifth, morale and fighting spirits of our soldiers have definitely been improved.



reconditioning. But where a patient is confined to his bed or a ward for months, there is naturally some loss of strength from long confinement.

So reconditioning was introduced to produce a gradual improvement in strength and resistance to the point where the patient can be discharged from the hospital and assume, if possible, full military duty without physical injury to self. Should the soldier not be able to return to duty for possible physical handicap, through the orientation and education facilities made available

Physical training, occupational training, recreation and educational pursuits are adapted to the needs of the company to which the men are assigned at the Reconditioning Unit.





# LAUGH - and the World Laughs with You

Jokes Courtesy of the Orange County Masonic Bulletin

"Did you get home all right last night, sir?" asked the street conductor of one of his regular passengers.

"Of course. Why do you ask?"

"Well, when you got up and gave the lady your seat last night you were the only two people in the car."

\* \* \*

One advantage of being a baseball umpire is that you are not bothered all the time by your friends asking for passes. You haven't any friends.

\* \* \*

A lecturer stopped his discourse suddenly and said to his audience: "There's no such thing as a perfect woman. Anybody present who has ever known a perfect woman stand up."

"Those who have ever known a perfect man, stand up."

One demure male stood up.

"Did you ever know an absolutely perfect man?" he was asked.

"I didn't know him personally," replied the little man, "but I have heard a great deal about him. He was my wife's first husband."

\* \* \*

"I had a funny dream last night and chewed the inside out of my pillow."

"Yeah? I suppose you feel sick today?"

"No, just a little down in the mouth."

\* \* \*

The school teacher was taking her first golfing lesson. "Is the word spelled p-u-t

or p-u-t-t?" she asked the instructor. "P-u-t-t is correct," he replied. "P-u-t means merely to place a thing where you want it. P-u-t-t means merely a vain attempt to do the same thing."

\* \* \*

"Are you the judge of reprobates?" the lady inquired.

"I am the judge of probate," was the answer.

"Well, that's what I want, I guess. You see, my husband died untested and left several little infidels, and I want to be their executioner!"

\* \* \*

A fast stepper often finds it hard to keep up with running expenses.

\* \* \*

"I tell you sir, long hair does make a man look intelligent."

"I disagree. My wife took one off my coat this morning, and I looked foolish."

\* \* \*

"Buy a subscription to the Ladies' Home Journal, mister?"

"I suppose you're working your way through college?"

"No, just helping my mother through welding school."

\* \* \*

Jinks: "That's a fellow who's going places."

Jenks: "Ambitious, eh?"

Jinks: "No, his wife's out of town!"

Brooke General Hospital Invites All Patients  
to Make Use of the

## Occupational Therapy Shops

No. 1 is located in Annex I, No. 2 in Annex II and No. 3 at the "old" hospital. Practical articles can be made in your spare time to send home—and there's no charge for supervision or materials.



BGH CIVILIAN WORKERS  
AWARDED SERVICE RIBBONS

The following civilians were awarded the six-month service ribbon and certificate effective 31 July 1944, for six months or more faithful service with the government:

Nano N. Whitfield, Helen M. Walker, Mollie Douglas, Thomas E. G. Abbott, Margaret E. Ede, Mauricio Figueroa, Eudocio Garcia, Carrie M. Morrison, Kattie A. Onic, Margaret W. Ramming, Mary Rau, Emogene F. Scott, Marie Stevenson, Winniefred M. Weir, Milas W. Williams, Rosalio F. Aguilar, Aline C. Albert, Miriam Bankler, Juanita J. Chase, Pablo Contreras, Manuel Dias, Lydia M. Dietz, Jean Gooding, William E. Huffstetler, Helen M. Ingram, Clara Jones, Santiago U. Ledesma, Helen G. Martinez, Hope Poole, Viviana Valdez, Pearl Williams, Pauleen M. Carvajal, Ida L. Brittain, Marie Chambers, Anita G. Denison, Delton Dunlap, Mary J. Hernandez, Pete A. Hernandez, Chrissie A. Keene, Enrique Lerma, Jr., Leopoldo C. Losoya, Madeline T. Marshall, Pete Orosco, Ernesto D. Ortiz, Gertrude T. Owens, Ascension B. Ruiz, and Osceala S. Stone.

RED CROSS NEWS

(Continued from Page 21)

San Antonio Army Service Forces Depot give a party, honoring the men who have birthdays in that particular month.

The men are presented a huge birthday cake which is elaborately decorated, then each of the honorees are presented a gift and take their turn cutting the cake. The remainder of the evening is very informal, with musical numbers and games being the theme of the evening.

Brigadier General J. A. Porter, Commanding General of the A.S.F. Depot, has heartily endorsed these parties; Mrs. Porter is a frequent visitor in the Day Room.

Have You Given  
BLOOD  
to the  
Red Cross Bank?



The following names make the "Honor Roll" this time:

- Joseph Feldstein, 27 times
- Martha Kriger, 5 times
- Angeline Talton, 5 times
- Mary I. Block, 4 times
- Marie Lehman, 4 times

The following have given blood at the Blood Bank three times: Mary R. Boozikee, Mildred P. Donnelly, Delton Dunlap, Paula Reynolds, Ascension Ruiz, Deodora de los Santos, Mrs. Sue Stanley and Alfred J. Ullman.

If you know someone who would make a good recruit for the WAC fill out the form below and mail to the Office of the Commanding General, Brooke General Hospital, Fort Sam Houston, Texas

SUGGESTED NAMES FOR W.A.C.

NAME .....			
Address .....			
Town and State .....			
Age .....	Race .....	Married .....	Single .....
NAME .....			
Address .....			
Town and State .....			
Age .....	Race .....	Married .....	Single .....